

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 311655Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8524

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY 4501

S E C R E T USNATO 6069

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC, PO

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN NPG ACTIVITIES

REF: STATE 237037

1. CHARGE MCAULIFFE CALLED ON SYG LUNS MORNING OF OCTOBER 31 AND, AFTER CLARIFYING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING ON INSTRUCTIONS, DREW FULLY ON REFTEL. LUNS' INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT WHILE HE PERSONALLY THOUGHT THE US WAS DOING THE RIGHT THING, HE WAS SURE WE WOULD MEET OPPOSITION FROM CERTAIN ALLIES. MCAULIFFE SAID WE EXPECTED SOME AND WE HOPED LUNS MIGHT ORGANIZE AN INFORMAL MEETING OF NPG PERMREPS MINUS PORTUGAL SO THAT THE SYG AND THE US WOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN THEIR VIEWS AND TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF OTHER ALLIES IN MAKING IT CLEAR TO THE PORTUGUESE THAT THEIR CONTINUING PARTICIPATION IN THE NPG AT THE PRESENT TIME CAN HAVE A DAMAGING IMPACT BOTH ON NUCLEAR PLANNING ACTIVITIES AND ON THE ALLIANCE ITSELF. LUNS AGREED TO ARRANGE SUCH AN INFORMAL MEETING OF AMBASSADORS IN HIS PRIVATE OFFICE EARLY NEXT WEEK.

2. LUNS REPEATED THAT WE SHOULD EXPECT OPPOSITION TO OUR PROPOSED COURSE PARTICULARLY FROM THE FRG. HE OBSERVED THAT WHILE THE GERMAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS FOLLOW RATHER CONSERVATIVE LINES IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, THEY HAVE A TENDENCY TO ADHERE TO PURE SOCIALISTIC IDEOLOGICAL LINES IN INTERNATIONAL FORA. LUNS SAID HE WAS CONVINCED BRANDT IS BEING PARTICULARLY ZEALOUS

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IN SUPPORTING COSTA GOMEZ ON THIS ISSUE IN A MANNER WHICH LUNS DESCRIBED AS TRYING TO BE MORE CATHOLIC THAN THE POPE.

3. MCAULIFFE OBSERVED THAT THE PORTUGUESE ELECTIONS IN THE

SPRING WILL BRING ONLY A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO LISBON, AND WE SHOULD NOT DELUDE OURSELVES INTO THINKING THAT THIS WHOLE ISSUE WILL NECESSARILY BE SOLVED IN MARCH OR APRIL. LUNS AGREED AND PREDICTED IT MAY BE A YEAR OR 18 MONTHS AFTER APRIL BEFORE PORTUGAL IS RULED BY AN ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, AND THAT AN ELECTED GOVERNMENT MIGHT INCLUDE ONE OR MORE COMMUNISTS.

4. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, USNMR SHAPE, USCINCEUR, USLOSACLANT AND USDOCOSOUTH.
MCAULIFFE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ADDRESSEES INDICATED PARA 4.

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